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MI Chapter 7

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In Chapter 7 the focus shifts to the classroom and how best to apply the theory of multiple intelligences to classroom arrangement. The author introduces the theory of ecological factors in learning. There are questions posed to the reader for each of the intelligences and how they are impacted by the ecological learning or how does the classroom work. For linguistic learners are there too much linguistic pollution or are the students empowered to develop their own linguistic materials? For the mathematical/logical student is the day sequenced to make optimum use of students’ attention span? For students that are spatial learners are the walls attractive or boring? For the students that learn kinesthetically are there materials in the classroom that allow students to manipulate or build? For the musical or auditory how does the teacher use their voice? For the interpersonal learners do students have frequent opportunities to interact in a positive ways? Students that are intrapersonal do students have opportunities to work independently. For the naturalist do the students have the ability to look out the windows to see the sky, clouds, or trees? The next facet of learning that the book covers is MI activity centers that are build around the eight intelligences and allow students to either work to their strengths or work to build their weaknesses. The centers are broken into four varieties, permanent open-ended, temporary topic-specific, temporary open-ended, and permanent topic-specific.

This chapter provides some great insight into how to arrange the classroom and what we should consider when setting up a classroom. There were many concepts in the book that I had not considered when I look around my practicum classroom. After reading the chapter I will be able to better assess the classroom and see where there is room for improvement or remember what I want to bring into my classroom when I begin teaching. The learning centers were a unique idea and would be interesting to see in use. There does seem to be many ways to get students involved and working to their intelligences.